

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A thermoplastic polymer composition comprising the following components (A), (B), and (C):

ethylene - vinyl alcohol copolymer (A);

a polymer mixture (B) composed of a block copolymer (I) mainly comprising a vinyl aromatic polymer block and a conjugated diene polymer block which may be hydrogenated, and a rubber softener (II); and

a polyolefin resin (C), wherein

the following three conditions are satisfied:

the ratio of [A]:[B] is in the range of 10:90 to 50:50,

the ratio of [I]:[II] is in the range of 30:70 to 90:10,

the ratio of ([A] + [B]):[C] is in the range of 100:0 to 100:30, when the blending amount of component (A) in the thermoplastic polymer composition is denoted by [A] parts by weight, the blending amount of component (B) is denoted by [B] parts by weight, the blending amount of component (C) is denoted by [C] parts by weight, the blending amount of block copolymer (I) in component (B) is denoted by [I] parts by weight, and the blending amount of rubber softener (II) is denoted by [II] parts by weight,

at least part of the block copolymer (I) is modified at a modification ratio of 0.05 wt.% or higher so as to have a functional group capable of reacting with the ethylene - vinyl alcohol copolymer (A), wherein said modification is not a reaction of a compound containing said functional group with a polymerization initiator used to prepare said block copolymer (I),

the ISO type A hardness of the composition is not less than 30 and not higher than 90, and

the oxygen permeation coefficient is  $20,000 \text{ mL} \cdot 20\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day} \cdot \text{atm}$  or less, and wherein the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) is in the form of particles that are dispersed in layers in a matrix comprising polymer mixture (B) and polyolefin resin (C).

Claim 2 (Original): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein the functional group capable of reacting with the ethylene - vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) is a functional group derived from an  $\alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid and/or a derivative thereof.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein the polyolefin resin (C) is present and is a propylene polymer.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein the polyolefin resin (C) is present and is polypropylene containing a functional group derived from an  $\alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid and/or a derivative thereof.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): A molded product composed of the thermoplastic polymer composition of claim 1.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): The molded product according to claim 5, which is a packing for a container.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A multilayer structure comprising a layer composed of the thermoplastic polymer composition of claim 1 and a layer composed of the polyolefin resin (C).

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The multilayer structure according to claim 7, wherein the layer composed of said thermoplastic polymer composition and the layer composed of the polyolefin resin (C) are directly adhesively bonded to each other.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The multilayer structure according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the polyolefin resin (C) is a polypropylene polymer.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): A packing for a container composed of the multilayer structure of claim 7.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 2, wherein the polyolefin resin (C) is present and is a propylene polymer.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 2, wherein the polyolefin resin (C) is present and is polypropylene containing a functional group derived from an  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid and/or a derivative thereof.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to Claim 1, wherein the ISO type A hardness is not less than 40 and not higher than 80.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to Claim 2, wherein the ISO type A hardness is not less than 40 and not higher than 80.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to Claim 1, wherein the oxygen permeation coefficient is  $15,000 \text{ mL} \cdot 20\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day} \cdot \text{atm}$  or less.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to Claim 2, wherein the oxygen permeation coefficient is  $15,000 \text{ mL} \cdot 20\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day} \cdot \text{atm}$  or less.

Claims 17-22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (New): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein said modification has been carried out by radical addition of a monomer comprising said functional group to said block copolymer (I).

Claim 24 (New): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of modified block copolymer (I) to the entire block copolymer (I) component is 10-80 wt%.

Claim 25 (New): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of modified block copolymer (I) to the entire block copolymer (I) component is 25-60 wt%.